

MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 2, 2004

Present were Richard Grant, Chair; Steve Peetz, Supervisor; Marsha Jones, Supervisor; Judy Ashford, Clerk-Treasurer and Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer. Grant called the meeting to order and determined that it had been properly noticed. Peetz moved, Jones seconded to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2004 meeting. Motion passed. Grant moved, Peetz seconded, to approve the financial reports. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair read a letter from Dennis Erstad submitting his resignation from the Planning and Zoning Commission due to conflicts in his schedule.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Grant announced a Vision Session for the town's Comprehensive Plan to be held from 6:30 to 9:30 on Thursday, April 15, 2004 at the town hall. Town board and Planning and Zoning Commission members will be in attendance along with representatives from Vandewalle and Associates to present maps of the town, results of a survey and discussion with residents on the future growth of the Town of Merrimac. The public is encouraged to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

Grant asked the clerk to respond to the State Elections Board that the town does not know at this time how it would handle the need for high speed internet connection in order to be involved in the statewide voter registration requirements in 2006. There is no high speed internet service in Merrimac and no one has plans to provide it.

The board considered a request from Sauk Co. Waste Dept. to commit to sending its waste to a Sauk County transfer site if one were to be built. Grant said he is not in favor of government being in business and that he has been in opposition to similar requests in the past. Peetz moved, Jones seconded, to decline the opportunity to take any action on this request. Motion passed.

The board considered the information that the State of Wisconsin will require building inspection on all new homes and any remodeling done on homes built since 1980. Grant said it is not town government's responsibility to make state errors work. Grant moved, Peetz seconded, not to adopt an ordinance that the town would enforce the Uniform Dwelling Code. Motion passed. This means that the state will enforce the code and hire the building inspectors for each home being built or remodeled.

Grant moved, Peetz seconded, to approve a Certified Survey for the Fern Asma property as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Jones chaired the portion of the meeting concerning a PAD submitted by Frank Grant. As chair of the Planning & Zoning meeting that considered the preliminary PAD plan, she explained that Frank Grant wanted to construct storage warehousing on Hwy 78 on the former Parrish property. The commission, having reviewed the plat, approved the preliminary plans. Jones moved, Peetz seconded, that the board approve it as well allowing for the final planning stage to begin. Both Jones and Peetz voted approval; Richard Grant abstained. Motion passed.

Funding availability of the resurfacing of Owls Head Road was discussed. A total of \$60,000 is needed for the project. The clerk suggested the board approve a carryover of \$26,262 in unspent funds in the 2003 road budget to 2004 and that \$19,628 in undesignated funds on hand be allocated to the 2004 road budget to augment the Local Roads Improvement Program grant of \$14,100. Grant so moved; Jones seconded. Motion passed.

McCumber requested the board consider purchasing a laptop computer for his use. He keeps his town files at home and with a laptop could work from his home or the town hall. He would be able to print building permits at the site. He had obtained a price quote from Gateway because the town's computer is a Gateway and the two should be compatible. The cost would be \$2777. Discussion followed regarding buying a laptop with a five year life compared with the two or three years remaining on the current town computer. Grant moved to table to next months' meeting pending further information about other computers.

Grant moved, Jones seconded, to move the April board meeting to April 13 to coincide with the Annual Town Meeting. Motion passed.

Grant thanked all the many people who have contributed to the purchase of the Clingman property.

Peetz moved to adjourn; Grant seconded. Motion passed.

Town Officers: Richard Grant, Chair, 493-2106; Marsha Jones, Supervisor, 644-0506; Steve Peetz, Supervisor, 493-2669; Judy Ashford, Clerk-Treasurer, 493-2588; Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer and Zoning Administrator, 643-6332. **Assessor:** Steve Mahlik, Equity Appraisal, LLC, 608/826-0009. E-mail address: townmerr@merr.com. **Note: Building permits are required in the Town of Merrimac. Please contact any of the above listed people with questions.** Town website: <http://www.tn.merrimac.wi.gov>.